

H.R. 905, Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary and Underwater Preserve Boundary Modification Act.

Roll 741, September 29, 2009: On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree: H. Res. 16, Supporting the goals and ideals of National Life Insurance Awareness Month.

Roll 742, September 29, 2009: On Motion to Instruct Conferees: H.R. 2997, Making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes.

#### FISCAL NEW YEAR

#### HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 2009

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, Happy New Year.

Today is October first, the start of the 2010 Fiscal Year. That means it is also Fiscal New Year.

My short time here in Washington has convinced me that many inside the Beltway are out of touch with the real day-to-day lives of those in the rest of the country.

So we should do what many Americans do, and use the New Year as an opportunity to reassess how we are doing, and to make resolutions to improve our behavior.

Today, I offer some Fiscal New Year Resolutions for Congress:

Number One: Balance the budget.

CBO estimates that the 2009 deficit will be 1.6 trillion dollars, and the cumulative deficit over the next ten years will equal 9.1 trillion dollars.

Number Two: Lower our debt.

Even if we stop deficit spending, we already carry 11 trillion in debt. We should be addressing this burden, not increasing it.

Number Three: Act responsibly.

We need to make sure Congress can and does read the bills they pass. We need time to study and evaluate them before a vote.

Number Four: Study economics.

Congress obviously needs some lessons in how markets work. We need to recognize that Government control in what should be the private sector destroys efficiencies. We need to reward success, not bail-out failure. And we need to understand that government competition destroys markets.

Madam Speaker, I hope Congress can so resolve.

MOTION TO GO TO CONFERENCE  
ON H.R. 2918, LEGISLATIVE  
BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT,  
2010

SPEECH OF

#### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 23, 2009

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I strongly support many provisions in H.R. 2918, the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act of 2009, including funding for the Census Bureau, the U.S. Capitol Police, the Government Account-

ability Office, GAO, and the Ryan White AIDS Program. I cannot, however, support the inclusion of approximately \$10.8 billion in war funding and as such, I oppose the bill.

As an ardent supporter of the U.S. Postal Service, USPS, I commend the inclusion of provisions in this bill that would reduce the amount USPS must contribute to the Postal Service Retiree Health Benefits Fund to \$1.5 million from \$5.4 million, ensuring its survival through the end of this month. Congress has a responsibility to the communities it represents to ensure that the USPS and the irreplaceable services it provides as a universal mail delivery service are maintained.

This legislation appropriately increases the funding for the U.S. Census Bureau to \$7.1 billion to ensure that the agency can meet the demands of the upcoming census in 2010. The census is vital in fulfilling our Constitutional duties under Article 1, Section 2, which are intended to ensure that the people have equal representation in government at the state and federal level. I also fully support the provisions in this bill providing \$328 million for the dedicated men and women of the U.S. Capitol Police and \$572 million for the GAO.

I strongly oppose the inclusion of funding for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan in this bill. The war in Iraq was based on false intelligence and an inaccurate, government sponsored, propaganda campaign. This body was given a mandate by the American people in 2006 to get out of Iraq. Congress has the ability, through the power of the purse, to end the occupation of Iraq and bring all troops and contractors home immediately. Failure to do so continues to put our brave and honorable troops in harm's way.

I also oppose dedicating more resources to Afghanistan. The people of Afghanistan are suffering horribly from 8 years of war. During that time, the Afghan central government has become increasingly corrupt and has failed to meet the needs of the Afghan people.

Violence in Afghanistan continues to grow. The United Nations General Assembly Security Council reports "an average of 898 incidents in the first seven months of 2009, compared to 677 during the same time frame in 2008. Incidents involving improvised explosive devices have risen dramatically, to an average of more than eight per day, 60 per cent higher than the average during the first seven months of 2008. Complex attacks now average one per month compared to one per quarter in 2008." This past August was reported to be the "deadliest month since the beginning of 2009."

I am also dismayed by the inclusion of language that unilaterally bars all funding for Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now, ACORN. I have serious concerns that such language constitutes a bill of attainder. The Constitution expressly prohibits Congress from legislatively punishing an individual or specific class of people, and I believe that this action is an effort to circumvent the protection that the Constitution affords to all people and organizations. This country has a robust judicial system that has been created precisely for this purpose; we ought to let it do its job. If a crime has been committed, we should prosecute the people who have committed that crime.

Congress and the American public simply will not tolerate an open-ended commitment of money and troops while millions of Americans

are losing their health care, their homes, their jobs, their pensions, their investments. I support the Legislative Branch Appropriations bill by itself. I cannot support it when it is used as a vehicle for perpetuating the Iraq and Afghanistan wars.

HONORING COMMANDER SETH  
FOSTER HUDGINS III, UNITED  
STATES NAVY, FOR 22 YEARS OF  
HONORABLE SERVICE

#### HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 2009

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to recognize CDR Seth Foster Hudgins III, United States Navy. Commander Hudgins is retiring from the Navy after 22 years of honorable service as a commissioned officer. Commander Hudgins is the eldest son of Seth and Joy Hudgins of Cornwall, NY and is a 1987 graduate of the United States Naval Academy. Shortly after graduation, Commander Hudgins entered U.S. Navy undergraduate flight training, and in 1989, he earned Naval Aviator wings as a jet pilot.

Since that time, Commander Hudgins has served his country in many different capacities, most notably serving as his squadron's Operations Officer and Acting Executive Officer in Operation Enduring Freedom. Throughout his sterling service to our Nation, Commander Hudgins has been awarded the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, two Air Medals, and the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, among others. He has accumulated over 3000 flight hours and more than 500 carrier landings. Commander Hudgins has served our great country with honor and distinction. I wish him and his wife Jennifer all the best as he retires from the Navy and continues to serve our nation at the Joint Interagency Task Force South in Key West.

#### ENHANCED PARTNERSHIP WITH PAKISTAN ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

#### HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 30, 2009

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of S. 1707, the Enhanced Partnership with Pakistan Act of 2009, a bipartisan bill designed to forge a true strategic partnership with Pakistan and its people, strengthen its democratic government, and support Pakistan so it may become a force for stability in a volatile region.

This legislation triples the authorization for U.S. economic, social, and democratic development assistance to Pakistan to \$1.5 billion a year for fiscal years 2010 through 2014. The bill provides that this aid be provided with a particular focus on strengthening democratic institutions, promoting economic development, and improving Pakistan's public education system.

The bill also authorizes military assistance to Pakistan to help it disrupt and defeat al